(b) Available figures to export-realisations do not indicate any such trend.

(c) Export of cotton yarn has not been unplanned. The total export of cotton yarn has been less than 10 per cent of the total production of cotton yarn. The rise in yarn prices having been a global feature it cannot be said to have had any exclusive impact on our exports.

(d) Introduction of a unified market determined exchange rate system, convertibility of the rupee on current account, facilitating import of capital goods at concessional duty, permission to retain the Foreign Exchange receipts to the extent of 25 per cent in Foreign Currency account, organising participation by exporters in buyer-seller meets, fairs, exhibitions etc., are some of the steps taken by the Government to increase textile exports, including cotton garments exports.

Stamping of Retail Price on Packages of Yarn

1067. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to stamp the maximum retail price on all packings of yarn including hank yarn used by handloom weavers in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make amendments in the existing laws to allow price stamping; and

(c) if So, by when it is likely to be made affective and to what extent the handloom weavers are to be benefited by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The legal instrument through which the notification is to be effected is under examination. This will help hand loom weavers by preventing yarn traders from fixing prices arbitrarily.

Import of Textiles

1068. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will thte Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to open its textile market for import:

(b) whether this has caused much resentment among powerloom and handloom weavers of the country;

(c) if so, whether Government are considering to protect the interest of these sectors, and

(d) if so, the details of the measures being taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d) In the market access negotiations as part of the Uruguay Round, both the USA and the European Commission have been asking for market access for their own textile and clothing products in the Indian market. The negotiations are still continuing.

The outcome of these negotiations is not expected to adversely affect the interests of the powerloom and handloom weavers of the country.

Export of Garments

1069. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total annual exports of readymade and man-made garments particularly from Maharashtra and Gujarat as on date;

(b) which is the largest garment exporting State in India;

(c) what action is being contemplated to encourage exports of readymade and man-made garments; and

(d) the names of five countries to which India's readymade garments exports are maximum, togetherwith details thereof?